

Dedication of Court Rescheduled for June

Torrance

Press-Herald

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48 PAGES

Watts, Shery Returned; Library Bond Approved

Budget Session Planned

Cuts of more than \$1.3 million in the 1967-68 school budget will be required if the Torrance school tax rate is to remain at its current level, the Board of Education was told Monday.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, told the board it could maintain the current tax rate only by eliminating all proposed additions to the school program and by cutting current programs in order to provide for any salary increases which are approved.

A preliminary budget handed to trustees April 3, calls for expenditures of more than \$22.5 million and estimates income for the year at \$20.7 million.

DR. HULL told the board his office had identified areas where some \$338,000 could be cut from the proposed budget, but he said he felt it was not possible to give serious consideration to the proposed budget until the assessed valuation of the school district is established.

Preliminary reports on the district's assessed valuation are due May 15, Dr. Hull said. Trustees have scheduled a special meeting May 22 to consider the preliminary budget.

IN OTHER ACTION Monday, trustees:

• Tabled a proposal by the Torrance Education Association to provide teachers and other district personnel with leave during the school year for personal business reasons. One board member called the proposal a "theft of public funds."

• Asked Dr. Hull to prepare a resolution calling on the state to increase its contributions to local public schools.

• Approved a letter which will be sent to the State Board of Education and members of the State Legislature asking that current rules which restrict the number of students which a speech therapist may treat be revised to lessen the restrictions.



MRS. PAULINE WATTS Leads at Polls



DR. KURT T. SHERY Wins New Term

Staff Explains School Policies About Narcotics

What are the Torrance schools doing to inform students of the dangers of narcotics and other drugs?

Students begin learning about the harmful effects of narcotics and alcohol at the fourth grade level, the Board of Education was told Monday.

State health textbooks for the fourth and fifth grades emphasize the topics of alcohol and tobacco and the harmful effects of narcotics, alcohol, and tobacco are discussed in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades, it was reported.

IN EACH INSTANCE, the subject is discussed from the physiological, mental, and social aspects, Dr. Albert Posner, assistant superintendent of schools for educational services, said.

In addition, all sophomore students in high school are required to take a health and driver instruction course which emphasizes the effects of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, and other dangerous drugs.

Included in the course is a study of addiction to narcotics, classification and identification of narcotics, and

the use and misuse of drugs, Dr. Posner said.

TEACHERS also have a number of supplemental materials—including films and guidebooks—available for use in the classroom. Dr. Posner said many of the elementary schools have invited speakers from the Torrance Police Department to discuss narcotics and other dangerous drugs.

High schools in the city provide speakers for the health and driver instruction class and frequently student councils and other student organizations sponsor special programs on the subject.

Dr. Posner also said the Parent-Teacher Association also is involved in the program. Police officers often present programs on narcotics at PTA meetings and a number of pamphlets and other materials are distributed to parents.

TEACHERS also have participated in seminars conducted by law enforcement officers to learn to identify students who may be using narcotics or other drugs.

"One of the most effective methods for the control and prevention of narcotics problems is for all persons concerned to be informed of the symptoms of drug and narcotics use," Dr. Posner said.

He told the board principle problems on the Torrance schools involve the use of marijuana and dangerous drugs. "We have no problems with heroin," Dr. Posner said.

HE SAID the use of LSD by students has not become a major problem in Torrance, but said the real danger in LSD is that it can be given to students without their knowledge.

Dr. Kurt Shery, a member of the board, said LSD can be manufactured by almost any chemistry student and transported in ways which make it almost impossible to identify. The real effects and dangers of LSD are not fully known today, Dr. Shery added.

Voter Turnout Smallest Ever

By JERRY REYNOLDS Press-Herald City Editor

A majority of Torrance's eligible voters stayed home yesterday.

But those that went to the polls—some 15 per cent of the 50,000-plus eligible—re-elected two members of the Torrance Board of Education and approved a \$2,350,000 municipal library bond issue.

Re-elected to the Board of Education were Mrs. Pauline (Polly) Watts, who led the seven candidates with 5,276 votes, and Dr. Kurt Shery, who polled 5,198 votes.

COMPLETE unofficial returns from the city's 40 precincts showed voters approved the library bond issue, which will finance new facilities as well as the purchase of books, a margin of almost four to one. A total of 5,849 votes were cast for the bonds, while 1,691 votes were cast against the issue.

Mayor Albert Isen hailed approval of the bond issue as a vote for home rule and said he was "real proud the people are able to recognize the city's library problems." At the same time, Isen said he was "ashamed that the voters don't show more interest in the Board of Education."

The turnout of voters was one of the smallest on record here. City Clerk Vernon W. Coil reported. Only 15 per cent of the eligible voters went to the polls.

THIRD MAN in the school board race was John W. Kirby, an anti-narcotics educator who campaigned on a platform of tougher local regulations to deal with students who use or peddle narcotics or dangerous drugs on campus.

Kirby polled 1,657 votes. None of the other four candidates polled as many as 700 votes. Totals were: John R. Abshear, 655; Arnold Katz, 646; John Tofflemire, 645; and Jim Peters, 472. Three write-in votes were counted. Totals include 35 absentee ballots, it was reported.

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MRS. WATTS told the Press-Herald she was "pleased to be re-elected" and added that she also was "glad to see the library bonds pass."

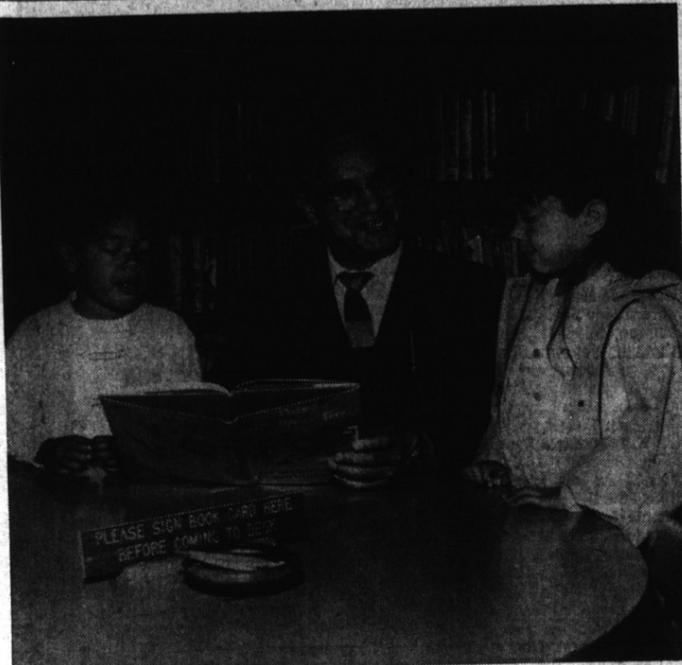
Dr. Shery was not available for comment.

Mrs. Watts was first elected to the Board of Education in 1963. Dr. Shery was appointed to the board in 1961 and elected to his first full term in 1963.

Unofficial Returns

Complete, unofficial returns of yesterday's balloting for members of the Torrance Board of Education and a \$2,350,000 municipal library bond issue follow. Returns are from 40 of 40 precincts and include 35 absentee ballots.

| Board of Education | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Mrs. Pauline (Polly) Watts | 5,276 |
| Dr. Kurt Shery | 5,198 |
| John Kirby | 1,657 |
| John R. Abshear | 655 |
| Arnold Katz | 646 |
| John Tofflemire | 645 |
| Jim Peters | 472 |
| Write-ins | 3 |
| Library Bonds | |
| Yes | 5,849 |
| No | 1,691 |



HAPPY LIBRARIAN . . . Russell West, newly hired city librarian, tells two Torrance students they won't have to worry about having books in the city's libraries when a municipal library system is established here July 1, 1968. Voters observed National Library Week in Torrance yesterday by approving a \$2,350,000 library bond issue by a 4-to-1 margin, thus insuring the city will have both the books and the facilities when the independent system is established. The youngsters are Eric and Alina Quiaoit, children of Mr. and Mrs. Jess Quiaoit of 2325 W. 233rd St. (Press-Herald Photo)

City Wants County Help for Sepulveda

Torrance councilmen last night asked Los Angeles County supervisors to appropriate \$100,000 to finance a major street improvement project in the city.

In addition, the city appropriated \$110,000 to finance a part of the project, which involves the improvement of Sepulveda Boulevard between Cabrillo Street and Western Avenue.

The project will include widening of the street to provide for four lanes of traffic, installation of curbs, gutters, and medians and the installation of signals.

BIDS WILL be opened in about 60 days if the Board of Supervisors acts favorably on the city's request, Walter M. Nollac, director of public works, said.

The city is asking for a \$100,000 appropriation from the county's special Highway-Through-Cities funds.

Some \$8,000 will be financed by the state's Public Utilities Commission through its Protection Fund, Nollac said.

IN OTHER ACTION last night, the council:

• Adopted a resolution asking that the planned Hawthorne Freeway be renamed to the Torrance Freeway. Councilman J. A. Beasley, the city's representative on the Inter-City Highway Committee, will ask that group to endorse the change in names.

• Established two-hour parking zone on the south side of Vista del Mar between Elena Avenue and Pacific Coast Highway in the Riviera Village section.

• Established a no parking zone on the north side of Carson Street between Maple and Madrona avenues.

• Offered to lease to the county sufficient land to provide temporary parking for the new Southwest Superior Courts Building. There will be no charge for the land provided the county agrees to build a parking structure adjacent to the new facility.

• Tabled a proposal by the Torrance Education Association to provide teachers and other district personnel with leave during the school year for personal business reasons. One board member called the proposal a "theft of public funds."

• Asked Dr. Hull to prepare a resolution calling on the state to increase its contributions to local public schools.

• Approved a letter which will be sent to the State Board of Education and members of the State Legislature asking that current rules which restrict the number of students which a speech therapist may treat be revised to lessen the restrictions.

Renewal Project Approved

Torrance councilmen completed the final step in the approval of the city's first urban renewal project last night.

Councilmen, voting unanimously, adopted an ordinance adopting the plan for the Meadow Park Redevelopment Project, during a brief meeting last night.

Final action by the council followed by a week a lengthy public hearing at which residents of the city protested approval of the plan because of a requirement that housing inspections be conducted throughout the city.

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June Date Picked

Court Dedication Rescheduled

Formal dedication of the Torrance-South Bay County Building has been scheduled for Friday, June 23, County Supervisor Burton W. Chace said today.

The dedication had been scheduled for an earlier date, but construction delays caused by an elevator construction workers' strike necessitated the delay.

"While the dedication is not until June, the building is expected to be in operation late in May," Chace said. "The move from facilities in Inglewood will start as soon as the elevators are in operation."

The five-story structure at 825 Maple Avenue in the Torrance Civic Center will house eleven Superior Courts and four Municipal Courts when completed.

Originally, plans called for a four-story building. However, the unprecedented growth of the South Bay-Torrance area prompted County Supervisors to authorize construction of a fifth floor.

While the interior work on only four floors has been completed, work will start soon on completion of the fifth floor. The work was authorized under a \$359,300 contract awarded Tuesday by Supervisors.

"The work on the last floor will not conflict with or delay the dates for the start of operation or the Dedication Ceremonies," Chace said.

In addition to the Superior and Municipal Courts, the building will house other major County department offices, including the County Clerk, Law Library, Marshal, Municipal Court Clerk, Juvenile Traffic, District Attorney and Sheriff.

The facility is built on a five-acre site provided to the County by the City of Torrance. Cost of the building will be approximately \$4.8 million.

Pay Hikes Reaffirmed By Council

City Councilmen acted last night to put the city in a stronger legal position should pay increases granted some 150 employees last year be challenged in court.

In a related action, the council denied a legal claim against the city charging it has illegally paid city funds to a Torrance police officer promoted without the benefit of Civil Service examinations.

Both actions stem from a wage and classification survey conducted for the city last year by a Chicago firm. The survey show some 150 employees had been working "out of classification" and councilmen voted to "blanket-in" those employees who were occupying the newly approved classifications.

AS A RESULT of council action at that time, one police officer—Tom Woodrige—was promoted to the rank of sergeant, although he was reportedly not on a civil service eligible list at the time of the promotion.

The Torrance Police Officer's Association protested the promotion, charging it was in violation of the city's established rules for promotions in the Police Department. On March 21 of this year, by a vote of 71 to 50, the Police association voted to bring a civil suit against the city to force councilmen (See PAY HIKEs ON A-3)

Train Kills Torrance Man

Richard Giltner, 38, a real estate salesman who lived here at 3629 Green Meadows Road, was killed at a rail crossing near Marine Air Corps base in Santa Ana Tuesday when his car was struck by a fast moving passenger train and cut in half. Officials at the scene reported that the rear portion of Giltner's vehicle was dragged more than a mile down the track after it was struck by the speeding Southern Pacific San Diegan. The train was damaged but was not derailed.

Hospital Directors Retained

Five members of the board of directors were re-elected to three-year terms at the annual meeting of the Torrance Hospital Association held here over the weekend. Returned to new terms were Howard A. Wood, M.D.; Mrs. Boris S. Woolley; Henry Creager, Mrs. John B. Melville, and Dean L. Sears. Mrs. Woolley, the president, conducted the meeting attended by 27 association members. Charles A. Curtiss, controller, and Leonard Ensminger, administrator, made annual reports.

Burglars Strike Again

Burglars who have been hitting northwest Torrance homes during daylight hours struck again Tuesday, taking home furnishings worth more than \$700 from the home of Arthur V. Urieta at 4216 W. 179th St. Police were told that the thieves entered the home during the day and carted away two movie cameras, two projectors, a cedar chest, sewing machine, two pistols, and a microphone with a total value of \$718. Three other burglaries in the general area, which had cost the victims more than \$2,000, were reported here Sunday.